

addition to the United Hebrew Institute in 1980.

The Seligman J. Strauss Lodge of B'nai B'rith presented Mr. Davidowitz with its Community Service Award and the trustees of the Luzerne County Community College recognized his efforts as vice chairman of the building authority responsible for the construction of the Nanticoke campus.

Mrs. Davidowitz serves on the board of the Jewish Community Center. She is a past board member of Temple Israel and Wilkes University and has held leadership roles at the Northeast Ethics Institute, Luzerne County Area Agency on Aging, King's College, Ballet Northeast, College Misericordia, Wyoming Seminary, John Heinz Institute, Penn State Lehman Campus, Northeast Pennsylvania Philharmonic, United Hebrew Institute and the Wyoming Valley Jewish Campaign, which she chaired in 1990.

Mrs. Davidowitz is a member of the Klezmer Band, "Freilox and Bagels," where she has played both the harp and the flute. She has served as the non-governmental representative to the United Nations for the National Council of Jewish Women and as a local representative to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council.

Mrs. Davidowitz has received tributes from the Greater Wilkes-Barre Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith, the National Council of Jewish Women, the Jewish Federation of Greater Wilkes-Barre and the Seligman J. Strauss Lodge of B'nai B'rith.

Mr. and Mrs. Davidowitz are the parents of four sons, Jeffrey, Ivan, Steven and Benjamin. They now have nine grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Davidowitz on this auspicious occasion. Their inexhaustible energy and devotion to family and community is an inspiration for all. Their volunteer service is an extraordinary example of how two people can make a huge difference in the quality of life in America.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF UA LOCAL 370 PLUMBERS AND PIPEFITTERS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, today I would like to take the opportunity to extend congratulations to the UA Local 370 Plumbers and Pipefitters as they commemorate their 100th anniversary. A celebration will be held on June 7 in Flint Michigan.

Local 370 was chartered on June 4, 1907 with 15 members. As a part of the United Association, Local 370 worked to change the 10-hour workday and the working conditions of its members. Over the years the benefits enjoyed by the membership have changed and grown. Base wages, initiation fees, and window dues have all changed to reflect changing economic times. The pension fund and insurance fund were created by in response to the needs of the membership.

Over the past 100 years Local 370 has been an integral part for worker rights. Chartered 30 years before the famous UAW sitdown strike in 1937, members of Local 370

built the building where the sitdown strike took place. The members have been committed to protecting prevailing wages, working for laws to mandate plumbing licenses for anyone working in the plumbing industry, working with other labor organizations to improve the day-to-day lives of workers everywhere.

Committed to the United Association motto, "We Do It Right the First Time," Local 370 has created a first-class training center for apprentices to develop their skills. The current roster of almost 500 members can earn up to 70 different certifications from United Association. The members strive to be the best trained and most up to date in their professions.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Local 370 for their assurance to their craft, their customers, the public and to the American worker. We have all benefited from their desire to work in a safe, conscientious environment.

CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION ON THE ABOLITION OF MODERN-DAY SLAVERY ACT INTRODUCTION

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues, Representatives CHRIS SMITH, CAROLYN MALONEY, and THELMA DRAKE to introduce a very important piece of legislation, the Congressional Commission on the Abolition of Modern-Day Slavery Act. The United States abolished slavery in the 13th Amendment to the Constitution, however, slavery continues around the world and we must seek ways to end the suffering. This bill will establish a highly qualified and bipartisan commission to make recommendations on what the United States can do to eradicate slavery in all corners of the Earth.

According to the International Labor Organization, more than 12.3 million people are victims of forced labor worldwide. Free the Slaves, a non-governmental organization, estimates that upwards of 27 million people are slaves today. The U.S. Government says that there are more than 14,500 people trafficked into labor or sex exploitation in the United States each year; perhaps hundreds of thousands of Americans are also trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation right here in their own country. Each of these individuals is a modern-day slave.

Modern-day slavery takes many forms, most often different from the images found in our own history. Rather than owning their slaves outright as in years past, the 21st century slaveholders use threats, violence and psychological coercion to keep slaves in dangerous and degrading working conditions with little or no pay. In countries around the world, slaves can be found in many labor-intensive industries, including the agricultural, commercial sex, construction, garment, manufacturing and service industries, as well as in domestic service.

To develop U.S. policy to end this man-made tragedy requires a thoughtful analysis of the factors contributing to slavery, a coordinated strategy among government agencies, and the political commitment of foreign gov-

ernments to pursue an end to slavery and an end to the impunity of slave holders. The Congressional Commission on the Abolition of Modern-Day Slavery would start this effort by examining best practices to prevent modern-day slavery, examining the effectiveness of U.S. laws prohibiting the importation of goods manufactured or produced through forced labor or child labor, examine U.S. policies and relations with countries that tolerate modern-day slavery, increase education and awareness about modern-day slavery, make recommendations to Congress on actions necessary to combat and eliminate modern-day slavery in all its forms, and more.

It is time to end the exploitation of people around the world. The U.S. Congress has the responsibility to study ways the United States can end modern forms of slavery and this commission will be the first step. There is no place in our world for slavery. Let's work to end it now!

RECOGNIZING DIANNA M.N. LE

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 24, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Dianna M.N. Le, a young woman from Guam who will serve our Nation as a commissioned officer in the United States Army. She has made her parents, Phat V. Le and Lylan T. Nguyen of Mangilao, Guam, and the people of Guam immensely proud. Dianna attended Wettengel Elementary School and Santa Barbara Middle School in Dededo, and graduated from St. John's College Preparatory School in Tumon, with a performance record that earned her a nomination to the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point. Having successfully maintained an outstanding academic record, Dianna M.N. Le will graduate from West Point and will be commissioned as a second lieutenant on May 26, 2007. She will soon begin an important and challenging career as a soldier and leader serving our country with distinction.

Throughout her 4 years at West Point, Cadet Le was recognized for her military skill and athleticism, as well as for her academic achievement. She earned the Recondo badge for military proficiency, the Army Physical Fitness Badge, the Indoor Obstacle Course Badge, and the Master of the Sword Badge. She was elected as team captain of the nationally ranked USMA Women's Army rugby team. She was twice selected as a 2nd Team All-American for her skill as a rugby player. She twice earned recognition on the Dean's list. Additionally, a paper which she co-authored was published in Applied Optics Journal.

As a second lieutenant, Dianna will serve as a Military Police officer. Following graduation, she will attend a 6-week Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC) in Fort Benning, Georgia. Upon completion of training at Fort Benning, she will receive additional training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, after which she will report for duty with the 173rd Airborne Brigade in Bamberg, Germany.

In line with the USMA's mission to train military leaders, Dianna Le consistently upheld the Academy's principles, traditions, and values of "Duty, Honor, Country" throughout the